the only mending that could be thought of. The Member submitted that those feeding houses were not fundamental elements in the constitution of the State. The Government had adopted the most liberal policy of equalising the status of the several classes of His Highness' subjects. On those considerations the prayer of the people was for the complete abolition of the *Oottupuras*. He added that, if the people had a voice in the framing of the budget, the evil would long ago have been ended.

In the opinion of the Member, State charities ought to include such institutions as poor houses, orphanages, etc. It was time that Travancore started social legislation on the lines above sketched. Representations had already been made for legislation to prevent mendicancy and begging. The general complaint was that begging had been taken up as a profession and even children were being trained to it. Legislation against begging might begin in towns under the T. I. C.'s by provisions being inserted in the Municipal Bill. In the case of the blind and others utterly destitute, arrangements might be made for their accommodation and maintenance.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

139. Need for introducing some radical changes in the present system of working of *Oottupuras*.

Mr. K. N. Parameswaran Pillai. (Member, Chirayinkil Taluk) referred to the history of the *Oottupuras* and the recently introduced reforms in reducing the expenditure on them. He then submitted that, in spite of the revision of *pathivoos* and consequent reduction in expenditure, there was waste, as very few of the *Oottupuras* were actually feeding any. It was also worthy of note that very few Brahmins were frequenting the institutions for meals.

The Member was of opinion that most of the money ear-marked for *Thanneerpandal*, *Kanjipura* and *Dharmapullu* was being misappropriated. If the amount under the last head were utilised for supplying grazing grounds, the object of the Government would be realised. In 1089 the right step was taken of stopping two *Othuttus* and transferring the funds allotted to those institutions to the maintenance of the hostel attached to the Special school at Kulakkada. The Member, in conclusion, suggested that the amounts under State Charities might be utilised for feeding poor school-boys at noon without distinction of caste, creed or colour. In the alternative, the amount could be used for Agricultural Education.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

IX. MISCELLANEOUS.—(*Continued*).

140. Need for administrative reforms so as to give practical control to the representatives of the people in administrative matters.

Mr. V. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Quilon Taluk) requested that the accredited representatives of the people be given the control of the State purse. He also urged the need for reforming the Legislative Council by granting a non-official majority and the power of interpellation.

Mr. G. Raman Menon M. A. (Member, Karunagapalli Taluk) said that the time had arrived in Travancore when it should be the aim of the authorities to introduce such radical changes as would make the officials responsible to the people's representatives. The Member dilated elaborately on the nature of the relations which ought to exist between the officials and the people and *inter alia* explained the method of work of the several departments of the State which made it obligatory on the Government to place the officials under the control of the elected representatives of the people. He was of opinion that there were several angularities of officials which could be removed only by introducing such alterations in the system of Government as would make the officials answerable to the people. The accredited representatives of the people should have the power of enunciating the State policy and regulating the finances of the State. If, in any matter, the duly constituted delegates of the people acted in an unjust manner, His Highness the Maha Raja should have the power of veto. The following is a summary of the suggestions made by the Member:—

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